

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 NEAE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04
H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02
SS-15 NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 DHA-02 IO-13
MCT-01 /080 W
-----032052Z 044211 /70

O R 032000Z FEB 77
FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1328
INFO AMCONSUL ALEXANDRIA
AMEMBASSY AMMAN
AMEMBASSY BEIRUT
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

UNCLAS CAIRO 2069

EO 11652: NA
TAGS: PFOR, PINT, EG
SUBJ: SADAT SPEECH (FEB 3): STRESS ON HARSH SECURITY MEASURES

1. IN ONE HOUR 45 MINUTE PRE-RECORDED TV SPEECH WITHOUT AUDIENCE, PRES SADAT EXPLAINED HE HAD HESITATED ADDRESS NATION ON JAN 18-19 RIOTS BECAUSE LEGAL INVESTIGATIONS STILL UNDERWAY, EXECUTIVE/LEGISLATIVE DIALOGUE CONTINUING, AND SPEECH MIGHT BE (INCORRECTLY) INTERPRETED AS POLITICAL RETROGRESSION TO ONE-MAN RULE.

2. ON PEOPLE'S BEHALF, SADAT THANKED VP, PRIMIN, AND GAVE SPECIAL THANKS TO MINWAR GAMASY AND ARMY AND POLICE FOR THEIR ROLE IN CONTAINING THE "CONSPIRACY."

3. PRESIDENT REVIEWED NASSER'S DECISION TO JAIL COMMUNISTS FOR SEDITION, BUT NOTED JAN EVENTS, INSTIGATED BY COMMUNISTS,
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WERE MUCH MORE EXTENSIVE THAN IN NASSER'S DAY, BECAUSE LEFTISTS AND OFFICIAL LEFTIST PARTY EXPLOITED SADAT'S NEW POLITICAL LIBERALISM. NEVERTHELESS, SADAT STRESSED SEVERAL TIMES, HE WILL NOT GO BACK ON HIS PLEDGE TO MAINTAIN AND DEVELOP DEMOCRATIC INSTITUTIONS.

4. RECALLING HOW AN "EXHAUSTED" NASSER ALLOWED CENTERS OF

POWER TO DEVELOP AFTER 1967, SADAT EMPHASIZED THESE CENTERS OF POWER WERE IN HANDS OF MOSCOW. AT END OF 1960'S, SOVIET AMB BEHAVED LIKE FORMER BRITISH HIGH COMMISSIONER. SADAT SAID HIS MISTAKE DURING MAY 71 COUP ATTEMPT WAS THAT HE LIQUIDATED ONLY CHIEF CONSPIRATORS, AND NOT ALL THOSE ON WHOM LEFTISTS RELIED.

5. SADAT PLACED CONSIDERABLE STRESS ON OBVIOUS SEDITIOUS TACTICS OF RIOT INSTIGATORS, WHO SOUGHT OVERTURN REGIME, INCLUDING PARLIAMENT AND PRESIDENT, IN ORDER TO CLAIM PROLETARIAT IN CHARGE. THERE IS TRANSPORTATION CRISIS, BUT COMMUNISTS BURNED BUSES. THERE IS SUPPLY CRISIS, BUT COMMUNISTS LOOTED GROCERY STORES, IT WAS NOT POPULAR RISING BUT UPSURGE OF COMMUNISTS INSPIRED THEFT AND LOOTING.

6. AGAINST THIS BACKGROUND, PRES ANNOUNCED HE WOULD SIGN, IN FRONT OF TV VIEWERS, DECREE BASED ON HIS SPECIAL POWERS UNDER ARTICLE 74 OF THE CONSTITUTION, AND IN VIEW OF THE TERRORIST AND CRIMINAL TACTICS WHICH JEOPARDIZED PUBLIC SAFETY ON JAN 18-19. (ART 74 READS AS FOLLOWS: QUOTE THE PRES OF THE REPUBLIC, IN CASE DOMESTIC UNITY OR THE SAFETY OF THE HOMELAND ARE THREATENED OR THE STATE ESTABLISHMENTS ARE OBSTRUCTED FROM CARRYING OUT THEIR CONSTITUTIONAL FUNCTIONS, SHALL ADOPT URGENT MEASURES TO DEAL WITH THIS THREAT. HE WILL ADDRESS THE PEOPLE AND HOLD A REFERENDUM ON THE MEASURES ADOPTED WITHIN 60 DAYS FROM THE DATE SUCH MEASURES ARE ADOPTED. UNQUOTE).

7. UNOFFICIAL EMB TRANSLATION OF OPERATIVE PARAGRAPHS OF UNCLASSIFIED

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DECREE AS READ BY PRESIDENT ARE:

(A) FREEDOM TO FORM POLITICAL PARTIES IS GUARANTEED ACCORDING TO THE LAW.

(B) SECRET ORGANIZATIONS, ORGANIZATIONS HOSTILE TO SYSTEM OF SOCIETY, AND ORGANIZATIONS OF MILITARY NATURE ARE FORBIDDEN ACCORDING TO CONSTITUTION. WHOEVER PARTICIPATES IN THEM OR CALLS FOR THEIR ESTABLISHMENT SHALL BE PUNISHED WITH MAXIMUM SENTENCE OF HARD LABOR FOR LIFE.

(C) PUBLIC, PRIVATE, AND COOPERATIVE PROPERTY ARE PROTECTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH CONSTITUTION. WHOEVER JOINS IN CROWDS TO DAMAGE SUCH PROPERTY SHALL BE PUNISHED BY LIFE IMPRISONMENT WITH HARD LABOR. SAME PENALTY WILL APPLY TO THOSE WHO INCITE OR ENCOURAGE SUCH ACTS.

(D) PAYMENT OF TAXES ... IS A LEGAL DUTY. TAXES SHALL BE ABOLISHED FOR FARMERS OWNING 3 FEDDANS OR LESS AND EVERYONE

EARNING LESS THAN LE 500 ANNUALLY.

(E) EVERY CITIZEN MUST SUBMIT DECLARATION OF HIS WEALTH WHEREVER AND WHATEVER IT IS, TOGETHER WITH THAT OF HIS WIFE AND MINOR CHILDREN, WITHIN THREE MONTHS OF PROMULGATION OF THIS LAW. THIS (DECLARATION) WILL BE INCLUDED IN HIS TAX-ATION CARD (CARRIED BY ALL CITIZENS). WHOEVER FURNISHES ERRONEUS INFO OR EVADES PAYMENT OF TAXES SHALL BE PUNISHED WITH IMPRISONMENT. TAX EVASION OR PROVIDING ERRONEOUS INFORMATION IS CONSIDERED CRIME OF DISHONESTY WHICH BARS THOSE GUILTY FROM FILLING PUBLIC POSITION.

F. WHOEVER ORGANIZES OR PARTICIPATES IN CROWD (ACTION) WHICH RESULTS IN AGITATION OF MASSES, LEADING TO OBSTRUCTION OF LAW WITH VIEW TO INFLUENCING, BY FORCE OR THREAT OF FORCE, THE CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITIES OR PREVENTING GOVT ORGANIZATIONS OR PUBLIC OR PRIVATE SECTOR OR INSTITUTIONS (E.G., UN-UNCLASSIFIED

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VERSITIES) FROM EXERCISING THEIR FUNCTIONS, SHALL BE PUNISHED WITH HARD LABOR FOR LIFE. SAME PENALTY WILL APPLY TO THOSE WHO ORGANIZE GATHERINGS, EVEN IF THEY DO NOT PARTICIPATE, AND TO THOSE WHO INCITE OR ENCOURAGE THEM.

G. WORKERS WHO GO ON STRIKE DELIBERATELY WITH A COMMON PURPOSE SHALL BE PUNISHED WITH HARD LABOR FOR LIFE IF SUCH STRIKE THREAATENS NATIONAL ECONOMY.

H. WHOEVER ORGANIZES OR PARTICIPATES IN A GATHERING OR SIT-IN STRIKE WHICH COULD JEOPARDIZE PUBLIC SAFETY SHALL BE PUNISHED BY HARD LABOR FOR LIFE.

I. ALL PROVISION OF THE LAW WHICH CONFLICT WITH THIS DECREE SHALL BE NULL AND VOID.

K. THIS LAW SHALL BE EFFECTIVE AS OF DATE OF ITS PUBLICATION.

L. THIS LAW SHALL BE SUBJECT TO PLEBISCITE WITHIN ONE WEEK OF ITS PUBLICATION.

8. COMMENT: PRESIDENT'S DECREE, WHICH WILL BE PRESENTED TO ELECTORS FEB 10 IS PRESUMABLY IN EFFECT AS OF NOW. AS NOTED ABOVE, IT BANS ALL NON-PARTY ORGANIZED POLITICAL ACTIVITY, PROVIDES EXTROARDINARILY HARSH PENALTIES FOR ALL VIOLATORS OF PUBLIC ORDER, PRESENTS NEW APPROACH THROUGH DISCLOSURE REQUIREMENTS TO CORRUPTION ISSUE, AND PROVIDES MODICUM OF ECONOMIC RELIEF FOR URBAN AND AGRARIAN POOR.

9. FULLER REPORT AND COMMENT BY SEPTTEL.

EILTS

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Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 03-Feb-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
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Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
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Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
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TAGS: PFOR, PINT, PINS, EG, (SADAT, ANWAR)
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